

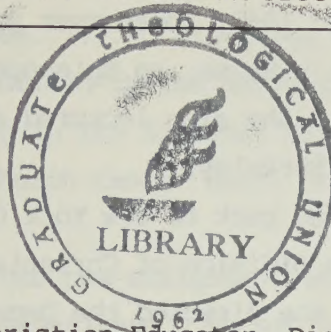
DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH APR 05 1985

EPISCOPAL CHURCH CENTER • 815 SECOND AVENUE • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017

am D. Dearnaley, News Director
et E. Vetter, Deputy News Director

Telephone: (212) 867-8400



Jan. 17, 1985

CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
● Betsy Rodenmayer, Noted Christian Educator, Dies (85007)	1
● Golden Assumes New Jubilee Post (85008)	3
● P.B. Fund Joins Ethiopia Aid Call (85009)	4
● Public Policy Network, Great Decisions Connect (85010)	5
● Diocese Commissions Bangladesh Missionaries (85011)	7

BETSY RODENMAYER, NOTED

CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR, DIES

DPS 85007

NEW YORK (DPS, Jan. 17) — Alice Elizabeth (Betsy) Rodenmayer died Jan. 14, 1985, after having served the Episcopal Church in several women's ministry leadership positions for more than fifty years.

She was born in Detroit, Mich., on June 11, 1909, the daughter of Lawrence E. Midworth and Alice DuBoise Midworth. The oldest of three children, she was in high school when her father was ordained to the Episcopal priesthood.

Rodenmayer entered the University of Michigan with an interest in social work, but due to the influence of the Rev. Henry Lewis, rector of St. Andrew's, Ann Arbor, Mich., she changed her major to Christian education in her senior year. After receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from Michigan in 1930, she entered Columbia University, where she received a Masters in Christian Education in 1932. The following year she was awarded a Bachelor of Divinity degree in New Testament by the Union Theological Seminary.

From 1933 until 1935, Rodenmayer was director of Christian education at Christ Church, Glendale, Ohio. She was married to the Rev.

-more-

185, INC.
DPS 85007/2

Robert N. Rodenmayer in 1935, and from then until 1952 lived at various times in New York City and in Gloucester and Northampton in Massachusetts, where he served Episcopal congregations.

From 1953 until 1962, Rodenmayer was professor of Christian education at St. Margaret's House, an Episcopal training school for women in Berkeley, Calif. She also lectured at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley.

Rodenmayer moved back to New York City in 1962 to become associate director of the Division of Christian Ministry at the Episcopal Church Center, where she directed the Department of Professional Leadership Development from 1968 - 1973. Since 1979, she has been instrumental in the development and direction of the National Episcopal Women's History Project.

Rodenmayer is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Christopher P. Bowman of Andover, Mass., Barbara Ann Rodenmayer and Alice Elizabeth Rodenmayer, both of Lincoln, Mass.

Presiding Bishop John M. Allin of the Episcopal Church has called Rodenmayer "a person dedicated almost entirely to the service and well-being of others, combining effectively the roles of parent, teacher and friend." He added that her influence and example will be felt throughout the Episcopal Church for decades to come due to the large number of people for whom she was an example.

###

GOLDEN ASSUMES

NEW JUBILEE POST

DPS 85008

NEW YORK (DPS, Jan. 17) -- Presiding Bishop John M. Allin has named the Rev. Canon Peter Golden to the newly created position of staff officer for Jubilee Ministry in the National Mission in Church and Society unit at the Episcopal Church Center here. Golden assumed his new duties on Jan. 15.

Golden comes to his new assignment with a background of varied pastoral and community experience. He has served parishes in Philadelphia, Detroit and Chicago and, most recently, has served as Canon to the Ordinary for metropolitan affairs in the Diocese of Chicago.

In other Church activity, he has served on committees on Hispanic ministry, urban ministry, Asia American ministries, social and specialized ministries and peace making. His urban concerns have involved him in senior citizen housing and urban pastoral education. He holds membership in the Episcopal Urban Caucus, the Union of Black Episcopalians and in the Society of the Oblates of Mount Calvary.

Golden's community activity includes serving as chaplain to the Chicago Police Department; citizen duty on the Mayor's Committee in Inkster, Mich.; work as a housing specialist; and working with the United Way of Detroit.

The position to which Golden has been appointed was originally titled "staff officer for metropolitan ministries" with development of the Jubilee program as a major element in the job. According to the Rev. Canon Edward Geyer, executive for National Mission in Church and Society, the change in title and job description was made by the Presiding Bishop in order to have the position relate to both urban and rural settings and to emphasize Jubilee Ministry in connection with SWEEP (service, worship, evangelism, education and pastoral care) as a part of the Next Step in Mission. Geyer explained, "In the past, Jubilee has been scattered. It's a whole-house operation, but there needs to be someone who is on top of the whole business, some one person people can call if they have a question."

Asked about his new job, Golden replied: "I have spent all of my ministry working on the issues that are at the heart of the Jubilee Ministry concept. It's a job that needs doing. I'm looking forward to this challenge."

P.B. FUND JOINS

ETHIOPIA AID CALL

DPS 85009

NEW YORK (DPS, Jan. 17) — The Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief has joined with six other relief agencies in issuing a statement describing the critical situation in northern Ethiopia, Tigray and Eritrea and calling on the international community for increased relief aid and an internationally supervised safe-passage agreement.

The statement, which was issued in December, points out that for those living in the contested regions — and that includes the majority of famine victims — relief assistance comes not through the Ethiopian government channels, but through relief agencies working out of Sudan. Where areas are controlled by opposition movements, as in rural Eritrea and Tigray, food and medical supplies are trucked in from Sudan by internationally recognized private voluntary organizations.

Further, the statement outlines the migration from their homelands of more than 5,000 people a day across central and western Tigray to overcrowded and undersupplied refugee camps in Sudan. Thousands die on the way, with an estimated 1,500 to 1,700 starving to death each day in Tigray alone. The statement adds that "in rural Eritrea, widespread and severe malnutrition is now giving way to starvation." Field workers feared the death toll would reach a quarter of a million people by the end of December.

The signees are urging other agencies assisting Ethiopia to join in support of their request for substantially increased aid "without regard to political, religious, ethnic or other considerations" and for an internationally supervised safe-passage agreement for supplies to all the starving. They also urge people and agencies to express their concern directly to the United Nations and to the United States' State Department.

In addition to the Presiding Bishop's Fund, the statement's sponsors are: Grassroots International, the Eritrean Relief Committee, the Relief Society of Tigray--North America, Mercy Corps International, Direct Relief International, and the Unitarian-Universalist Service Committee.

###

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024

DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE/ Episcopal Church Center 212/867-8400

PUBLIC POLICY NETWORK,
GREAT DECISIONS CONNECT

DPS 85010

NEW YORK (DPS, Jan. 17) — Great Decisions, a 31-year-old program of the Foreign Policy Association, and the Episcopal Church's Public Policy Network have teamed up in a model program to disseminate information on major foreign policy issues facing the United States.

According to Nancy Deppen, Public Policy Network coordinator at the Episcopal Church Center here, the network was looking for ways to educate its members on current issues. The Foreign Policy Association was looking for ways to reach people with its information. When the Association contacted the Church, the pieces began to fall into place for an arrangement which, Deppen says, is being seen as a model for interaction with other churches.

In its 1984-85 Annual Report, the Foreign Policy Association states its belief that "in a democratic system, an essential element in achieving a responsible foreign policy is a concerned and informed citizenry" and that "constructive dialogue between the citizens of this nation and their elected leaders" is an important part of the process. Great Decisions is one way of facilitating this.

Since its founding in 1954, Great Decisions has been endorsed by every American President and every Secretary of State. The program, currently involving about 250,000 people, is based on a 96-page briefing book which makes a non-partisan, non-political analysis of eight critical foreign policy issues. For 1985, the topics are: Revolutionary Cuba; Soviet Leadership in Transition; Iran-Iraq War; Budget Deficit, Trade and the Dollar; The Philippines; Population Growth; Future of the Atlantic Alliance; and U.S. Intelligence. A new feature this year is a series of eight half-hour programs, moderated by Edwin Newman, which will examine these issues. They will be offered to all public television stations via WESTAR satellite beginning Sunday, Feb. 10.

Episcopalians from New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, and Washington, D.C. who are involved in peace and justice issues got a chance to attend a workshop on implementing the Great Decisions program Oct. 23 in Philadelphia. Sponsored by the Foreign

DPS 85010/2

Policy Association and the Philadelphia World Affairs Council, the agenda included a description of the Great Decisions program, lunch, a speaker, and a discussion, during which the leader acted to encourage interaction between those attending and to enable them to examine all sides of the topic -- in this case, the Soviet Union. This was provided under the auspices of the sponsoring organizations and at no cost to the Church.

Evaluations from participants at the training session were generally positive. Most felt that they would be able to use the program, though the ways they would use it varied: in community groups, as a convocation event, in chaplaincy work, at church meetings, with the diocesan peace commission, as a Lenten program, and in an adult forum.

When asked about the wide-spread enthusiasm for Great Decisions, Deppen attributed it to the method used, saying, "It's seen as fairly presenting various points of view and not coming down on or promoting any particular point of view." She also noted that an important part of the program is the opinion ballots sent in by participants. These are tabulated and results are forwarded to the White House, Departments of State and Defense, and to members of Congress, as well as being distributed to the nation's media and interested members of the public.

Following up on the success of the Philadelphia event, at least two more regional workshops are in the planning stage. In anticipation of this and the television series, a letter enclosing Great Decisions materials is being sent by the Rev. Charles A. Cesaretti, public issues officer at the Episcopal Church Center, to those chairing diocesan peace commissions.

###

DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE/ Episcopal Church Center 212/867-8400

DIOCESE COMMISSIONS

BANGLADESH MISSIONARIES

DPS 85011

HARRISBURG, Pa. (DPS, Jan. 17) -- The Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania commissioned a four-member missionary team bound for Bangladesh during a special service at St. Stephen's Cathedral here on Jan. 10.

The Rt. Rev. Charlie F. McNutt, Jr., bishop of the diocese, presided at the service for physicians Ted and Sharon Kuhn of the Hershey Medical Center and their children Joshua and Lydia, and for Walter and Sarah Honaman, all of whom left Jan. 11 for Bangladesh to assist the church there to minister to one of the world's poorest and neediest nations.

Both couples are serving as Volunteers for Mission of the Episcopal Church and represent not only the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania but the Episcopal Church at large. Since the Church of Bangladesh is a union of Anglican and Presbyterian Churches, the Kuhns will be representing the Presbyterian Church as well.

For the past five years, the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania has maintained a companion relationship with the Diocese of Dhaka, Bangladesh. The respective bishops exchanged visits in recent years and have developed plans for mutual assistance and understanding.

Last summer Kuhn, along with Dr. Thomas Leaman, also from the Hershey Medical Center, traveled to Bangladesh to assess the opportunities for mission and ministry. They returned with an enthusiastic report about what could be accomplished in cooperation with the Church in Bangladesh.

The mission of the Kuhns will be to staff the church hospital at Rajshahi and to provide spiritual foundations and direction for the staff and school of nursing affiliated with the hospital. They will

-more-

DPS 85011/2

also engage in ministries of healing and teaching in surrounding villages.

The Kuhns, prior to their affiliation with the Hershey Medical Center, served as medical missionaries in Bangladesh under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church.

Honaman will work with the Kuhns in the area of hospital administration and with the Church of Bangladesh to improve the quality of life in the towns and villages through community and economic development. His wife Sarah will teach English in village orphan schools.

In serving as a missionary, Honaman is carrying on a family tradition: his parents, Fred and Eleanor, were Episcopal missionaries to Japan for more than 25 years. He is also the grandson of the late Bishop of Central Pennsylvania, Earl M. Honaman.

The missionary team will be known as the William H. Weitzel Volunteers for Mission, in honor of the Rev. Canon William H. Weitzel, rector of St. John's Church, Carlisle, Pa. Weitzel, who served as a missionary to Japan for 10 years, has been instrumental in developing the companion diocese relationship with Bangladesh and another with the Diocese of North Kanto, Japan. The Diocese of North Kanto is also participating in the missionary efforts in Bangladesh.

###